

Mr. Stacy was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army in 1966 and spent over 20 years as an infantry officer before retiring in 1989. During his time in service, he was deployed to Vietnam, where in 1967 his platoon was ambushed by the Viet Cong. Stacy successfully led his men in a charge on the enemy's well-fortified position, and in another firefight took point position to maneuver his platoon to safety out of the kill zone. In 1969, Stacy managed to move several of his wounded troops from the assault area while under attack from the Vietnamese despite being wounded himself. Stacy's actions during the war earned him the Silver Star with an Oak Leaf Cluster denoting a second award, the Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster denoting a second award, the Bronze Star with V device denoting valorous actions, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters denoting subsequent awards, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal.

After retiring from the Army, Mr. Stacy has brought the same love he had for his country and poured it into making his community a better place. He has served as President of the Colleyville Rotary Club, the Board of Directors of the Fort Worth Air Power Council, and a permanent member of the 82nd Airborne Association.

Mr. Stacy's career is marked with heroism and consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF JOEY THORINGTON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Fire Chief Joey Thorington of the Dearborn Fire Department. His honorable years of service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Deputy Fire Chief Thorington is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University's School of Fire, Staff and Command and the National Fire Academy and holds a bachelor's in Community Development focusing on Public Administration and a master's in Technology Studies, focusing on Public Safety and Emergency Management. A trusted member of the Dearborn Fire Department, he began his career as a firefighter protecting our natural wonders at the Manistee National Forest, and later worked in the White Cloud and Norton Shores fire departments. He began as a Firefighter I in Dearborn on April 28th, 1998. He rose to level of Firefighter II in December 2003. In 2006, he was promoted to Fire Engineer and after excelling in that role he was promoted to Fire Apparatus Supervisor Assistant in 2010 and then Lieutenant in 2012. On December 16, 2013, he became Deputy Fire Chief.

Deputy Fire Chief Thorington is the recipient of numerous awards and commendations for spectacular service to his community, including the John D. Dingell Medal of Freedom Memorial Commendation, the Fire Chief Life Sav-

ing Award, the Gino Polidori Community Service Award, the Outstanding Officer Award, the Vaccination Center Award, and the Meritorious Service Award. He served as President of the Dearborn Firefighters Association IAFF Local 412 from 2011 to 2013. Hard working and one of the biggest University of Michigan fans, Deputy Fire Chief Thorington has left his mark on the Dearborn Fire Department by setting the example for public service among his peers. When he is not saving lives in Dearborn, he works as Organization Administrator at the Legacy Center in Brighton and has volunteered to coach youth softball and baseball. Deputy Fire Chief Thorington retired on April 29, 2022 after serving over two decades with the Dearborn Fire Department. He resides in Pinckney, Michigan with his family, including his wife Jean and children Allan and Cece.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Deputy Fire Chief Joey Thorington for a career of exemplary service to the Dearborn Fire Department. I join with Deputy Fire Chief Thorington's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my gratitude to him for his honorable service in protecting our community and thank him for his role in serving the people of the City of Dearborn for the past two decades.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ETHEL B. TOY GORDON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of a remarkable individual, Ethel B. Toy Gordon.

Ethel was born February 11, 1925, in Holmes County to Daniel and Leola Brown Toy. Ethel, at the age of 96, was called to her heavenly resting place on Wednesday, January 28, 2022, in her home of Greenwood, MS. At an early age she professed her faith in Jesus Christ. Ethel joined Meeks AME Church in Cruger, MS.

Ethel was influenced by her family to be a loving and caring woman. She always gave her time to others. Ethel married James Gordon in 1944, to that union 13 children were born. She later joined Gordon Chapel MB Church until moving to Greenwood, MS.

In 2018, Ethel joined Providence MB Church until she passed away. She believed in family, and she always shared her childhood stories. It was never a dull moment and always great laughs and good meals. Ethel wanted everyone to love each other because love was one of the many morals that were instilled in her.

Ethel was a God-fearing woman. One of her favorite sayings was "If it had not been for the Lord on my side, I wouldn't be nothing nor would I have nothing." She was a blessed woman of God, who was full of life and joy. After the sudden passing of her husband, she was left with ten children to raise. By the Grace of God, they never needed nor wanted for anything. She was a woman to be admired and praised. Ethel B. received everything she deserved until her departure.

Ethel B. Toy Gordon was preceded in death by her loving parents: Daniel and Leola Toy, her husband James Gordon, brothers

Louis Toy, Jonas Toy, three sisters Dorothy Toy, Mattie Toy Martin, Viola Toy Montgomery, two sons Arthur Gordon and Eddie Gordon, two daughters Charlene Cooper and Trufilia Hayes, one grandson Billy Gordon. Her beautiful life will forever be cherished in the lives of her family and friends. On today she leaves loving memories to the 13 children, 8 daughters, 5 sons, 1 God son, 32 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, 8 great great grandchildren, two sisters, and one brother.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Mrs. Ethel B. Toy Gordon.

HAROLD CULVER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the Texas—24, the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Harold Culver, Sergeant, United States Army, of Bedford, Texas for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued dedication to his community.

Mr. Culver enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968, serving as a communications specialist with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. On May 5, 1968, a Vietnamese 122mm rocket was launched at his position, wounding him. His decorations include the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Mr. Culver's career is marked with heroism and is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROTECTING FEDERAL AGENCIES AND EMPLOYEES FROM POLITICAL INTERFERENCE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Protecting Federal Agencies and Employees from Political Interference Act, which would require an act of Congress before the headquarters for any federal entity located in the National Capital Region (NCR) on today's date may be moved out of the NCR. This bill is cosponsored by Representatives ANTHONY BROWN, GWEN MOORE, JAMIE RASKIN and DAVID TRONE.

The Trump administration moved the headquarters of agencies out of the NCR to the detriment of employees, their families and the work of these agencies. Employees who work in agency headquarters fulfill the indispensable role of keeping Congress and the president informed of agency activities. Congress cannot do its work to write laws and engage in vital oversight without the unvarnished facts that federal agencies provide. Two years after

the Department of Agriculture (USDA) relocated the Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to Kansas City, they are operating with roughly 30% fewer employees, with former USDA Director of Communications Matt Herrick admitting that these agencies had “lost some of the nation’s best economists and agricultural scientists.”

Furthermore, nearly 300 employees retired or quit after the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) moved its headquarters to Grand Junction, Colorado. The Biden administration’s return of BLM headquarters to our nation’s capital is greatly appreciated and will go a long way to restore the valuable expertise that has been lost.

While I do not expect the Biden administration to move agencies out of the NCR, this bill would protect against irrational decisions of future presidents. Unless measures like this bill are taken to stop agencies from relocating, the federal government will lose more employees and agencies will be unable to perform critical tasks, including assisting Congress in vital oversight.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING MS. KAREN BRENTS

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Karen Brents on the occasion of her retirement from the Los Angeles Police Department. After thirty years of dedicated civic service to the people and communities of Los Angeles, Ms. Brents will be sorely missed.

Ms. Karen Brents’ extensive career with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) began in 1989. Her excellence in the field and outstanding performance in emergency situations led to her receiving over thirty commendations within the Department and a promotion to Police Service Representative III (PSR III) in 1996. During her tenure, she was recognized by the District Attorney’s office for her exemplary courtroom behavior and communication skills.

Ms. Karen Brents was also deeply involved with training the next generation of 9–1–1 dispatchers and was a productive and reliable asset to the training cadre. Because of her deep engagement and dedication to the training program, Ms. Brents received multiple accolades and certificates for her hard work.

Ms. Karen Brents likewise received a dozen certificates and recognitions for her service and contribution to her community, including the 2006 certificate of achievement to the

Community Relations Unit, the 2000 National Dispatchers Week, and a 2006 certificate of achievement from the California Public Safety Radio Association (CAPRA).

For her remarkable accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize Police Service Representative III Karen Brents. Her decades of civic service and commitment are worthy of the highest commendation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REP.
ESTEBAN TORRES

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 3, 2022

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Congressman Esteban Torres.

Congressman Torres was a Los Angeles icon, a beloved public servant who proudly represented East Angelinos here in the People’s House for nearly two decades. He was a trailblazer who paved the path for someone like me—the son of working class, Mexican immigrants—to stand here in this chamber today.

A Decorated Korean War veteran and labor organizer, he never stopped fighting to lift up the working class and advance immigrant rights. He stood for all that is good and just, and his legacy should be a model for all those who serve in this body.